

Indiana Paths to QUALITY™

Evaluation Overview

Presentation to the Indiana ELAC

December 4, 2013

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Paths to QUALITY Primary Goals

1. Provide easily recognizable and understandable tool to help families with child care choices
2. Expand the quantity and access to high quality child care
3. Provide a system of resources and supports to help providers increase quality

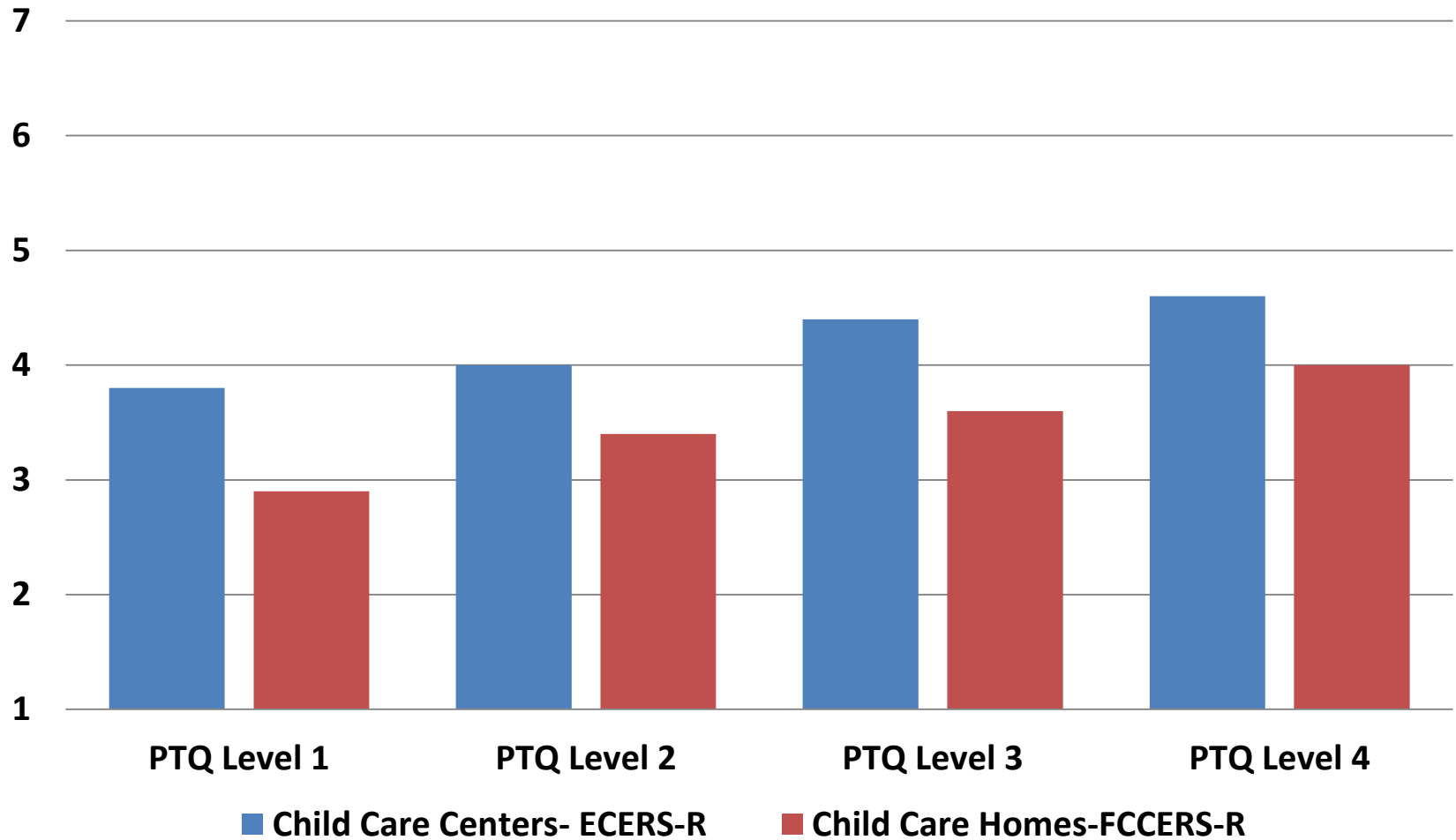
Phase 1 Evaluation

2007-2011

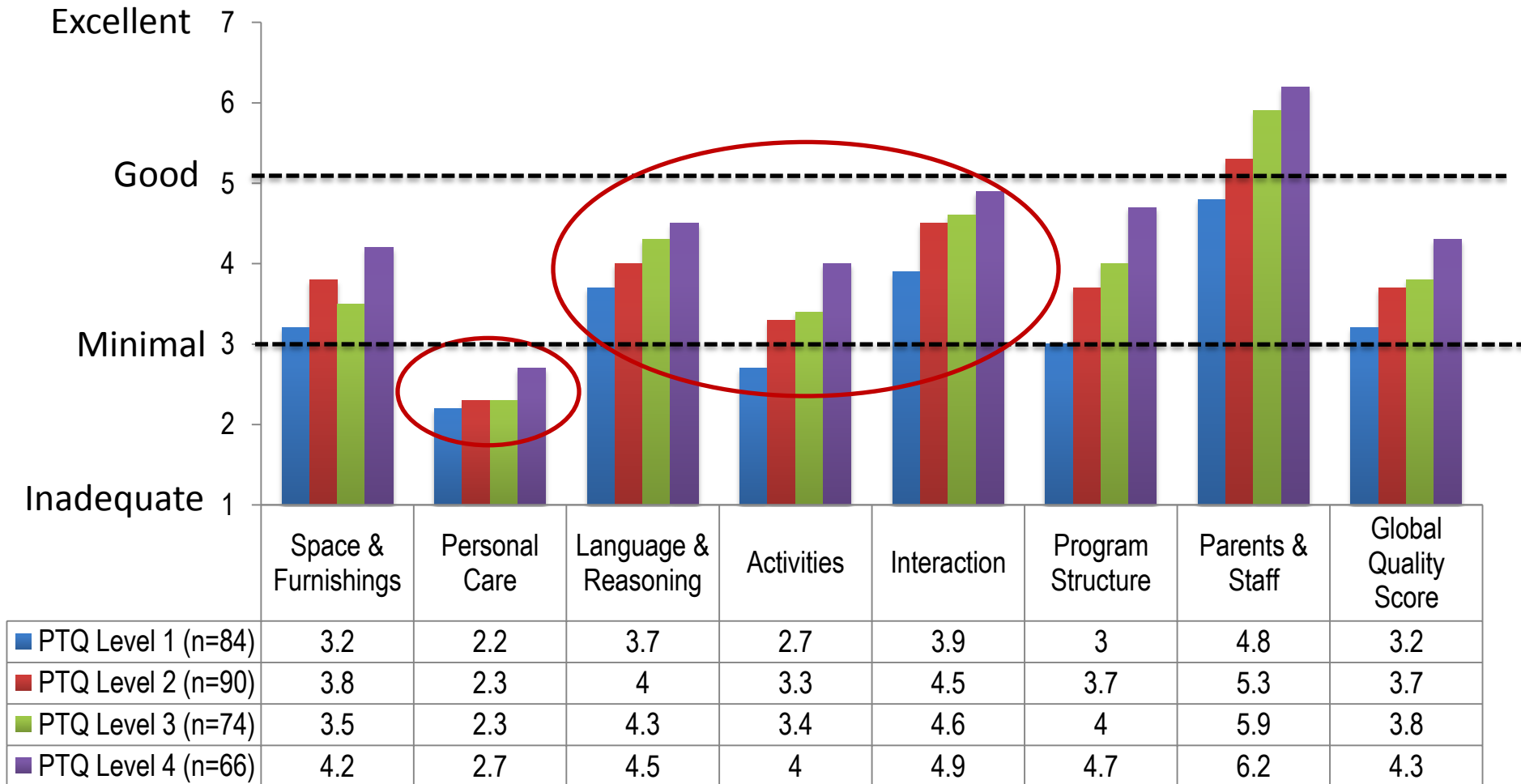
- 2007- Research literature review to validate PTQ quality standards
- 2008-2011 –
 - Validation of PTQ rating system
 - Formative evaluation of providers' and parents' experiences with PTQ
 - Survey of public awareness of PTQ
 - Initial study of children's developmental status within Levels 1, 2, 3, 4.

(Reports are available on Carefinder and Purdue Center for Families web sites.)

Validation: ERS Quality Scores by PTQ Level



ERS scores by PTQ level (n=314)



Children's Development in the Four PTQ Levels

- Children from all income and education levels had **access** to higher-rated providers
- **No significant associations** between PTQ-rated level and child outcomes
- **Some linkages** between our quality measures (ERS Language/Reasoning, Parents/Staff; CIS positive relationships) and child outcomes

Phase 1 Evaluation: Recommendations

- **Focus** on health & safety procedures; quality interactions
- **Reduce quality variability**-- Focus on PTQ rater reliability
- **Strengthen PTQ quality standards:**
 - Caregiver-child interaction quality
 - Developmental curriculum
 - Child assessment (ISTAR, etc.)
- **Focus on provider recognition** for PTQ advancement
- **Sustained campaign:** Public awareness of PTQ

Phase 2 Evaluation Plan

2012-2015

- Study 1: How does PTQ help child care providers advance to higher rated levels?
- Study 2: What are the factors that lead to advancement-- or not?
- Study 3: Does participation in PTQ-rated child care lead to improvements in low income children's development, early learning, and readiness for school?
- Study 4: Are Indiana parents of young children aware of PTQ? Do they use it to inform their child care decisions?

Study 3: Child Development Outcomes



- Two year longitudinal study
- 240 randomly children who are using CCDF vouchers
 - 80 infants/toddlers; 160 preschoolers
 - Level 1, Level 3, Level 4, Non-PTQ providers
- Three individual child development assessments: baseline; after one year; after two years
- CLASS interaction quality observations
- Family engagements practices
- Parent interviews every 6 months to track child care placements (type; PTQ level; “dosage”)
- CCDF central data system: time in care; type of provider; etc.

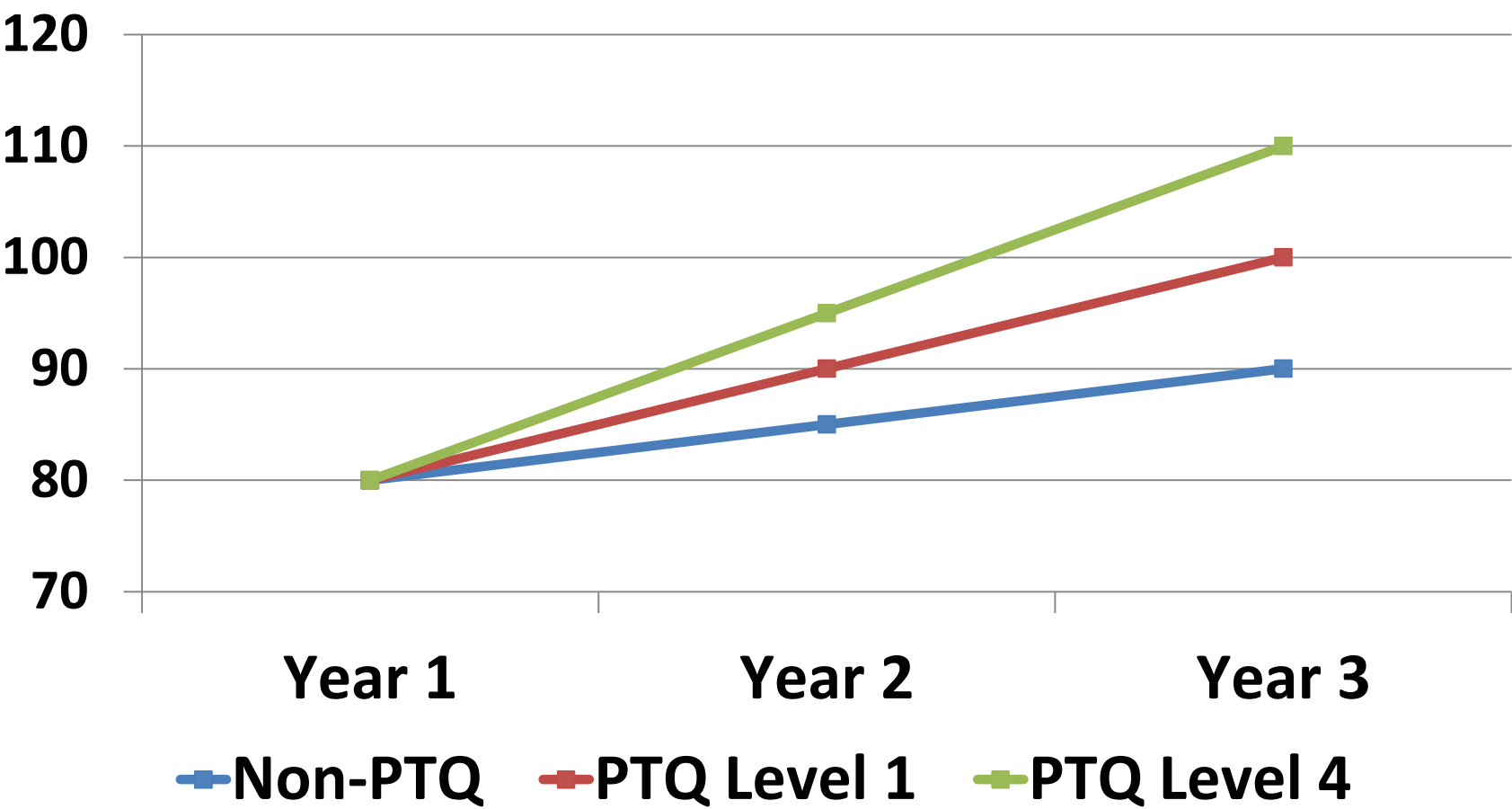
Paths to QUALITY Evaluation: Child Study Measures

revised, June 2013

1-3 year olds		
Construct	Measure	Description
Cognitive development	Mullen Scales of Early Learning	Measures visual reception, fine motor, expressive language, and receptive language skills in young children. Gives a composite early learning score.
Social emotional development	Brief Infant Toddler Social Emotional Assessment	A 60 item teacher report on child's social emotional development. This measure produces two subscales, social competence and problem behaviors.
3-5 year olds		
Construct	Measure	Description
Cognitive/School Readiness	Bracken School Readiness Assessment*	Measures comprehension of concepts such as colors, letters, numbers/counting, size/comparison, and shapes.
Language development	Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test	Measures receptive language skills in preschoolers
Social emotional development	Social Competence Behavior Scale	A 30 item teacher report on child's social competence. There are three subscales: anxiety/withdrawal, social competence, and anger/aggression.

Hypothesis We Will Test:

Higher Rated Child Care Will Produce More Learning



Indiana Pre-K Pilot Program: Evaluation Issues to Consider

- What are the specific evaluation questions we need to answer? (What are the expected benefits?)
- What is the level of evidence that is necessary?
- What resources are available to collect and analyze evaluation data?

More information

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